

## MINUTES ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

Greenville, NC  
May 23, 2005

The Greenville City Council met in a regular meeting on the above date at 6:00 PM in the City Council Chambers, third floor of the Municipal Building, with Mayor Robert D. Parrott presiding. The meeting was called to order, followed by the invocation by Council Member Council and the pledge of allegiance to the flag. The following were present.

Mayor Robert D. Parrott  
Mayor Pro-Tem Ric Miller  
Council Member Mildred A. Council  
Council Member Ray Craft  
Council Member Pat Dunn  
Council Member Chip Little  
Wayne Bowers, City Manager  
Wanda T. Elks, City Clerk  
David A. Holec, City Attorney

COUNCIL MEMBER ABSENT: Council Member Rose H. Glover

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Council Member Dunn and seconded by Council Member Craft to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2005-2006 BUDGET

City Manager Wayne Bowers reviewed the budget process for the proposed FY 2005-06 budget, which included the City Council goal setting session in January, departmental presentations on March 17, presentation of a balanced budget on May 12 and budget discussion scheduled for tonight. The \$61,281,745 FY 2005-06 budget is two percent less than the \$62,372,113 FY 2004-05 adjusted budget, even though the proposed FY 2005-06 budget is ten percent higher than the original FY 2004-05 budget. The proposed tax rate for FY 2005-06 is the same as last year, \$.56 per \$100 assessed value. A four percent growth is anticipated. The budget includes some fee increases, including an increase in Fire/Rescue fees so that they will be in-line with other communities. There has not been an increase in five years. The public hearing is scheduled for June 6; proposed adoption of the budget is scheduled for June 9, and the new fiscal year is to begin July 1.

City Manager Bowers stated that Council Member Glover had followed up with him on a meeting held last week regarding recreation facilities in West Greenville. He stated that he discussed the summer camps scheduled in West Greenville with her. Resources will be provided depending on the number of youth registered. Council Member Glover's other concern was the

lack of after school programs. The Director of Recreation and Parks will check with the schools and bring back a proposal after the need is investigated.

Council Member Little expressed concern about the lack of funding in the proposed budget for neighborhood parks, even though the Master Recreation and Parks Plan recommended providing more. He would like to see resources available to get a jump-start on a park on the property acquired from Bill Clark on Firetower Road, as there is a real need in that area.

Mr. Lee shared the concerns about neighborhood parks and stated that staff is getting ready to create one in Oakdale/Red Oak, which is the only one in the budget at this time. If the Council wants to construct the Bill Clark property now, the only place within the current budget that funds are available is the Capital Improvement Program for replacement of playground equipment (\$60,000). If Council desires, for one year only, \$50,000 of those funds could be used for the first phase of developing the park on Firetower Road. With the \$50,000, the City could provide a small parking area, playground equipment, exercise equipment and a walking trail. The property includes 15 acres, which is adequate for a neighborhood park. That is the only option I can see right now if you want to go with that and delay equipment for one year.

Concern was expressed about whether this would create hazards at other parks, and Mr. Lee responded that it would put the City behind, but it can be done for one year.

Council Member Dunn asked that the Council consider the preservation of green space in the long-range plan (20-30 years out). The Council needs to ensure that open green space will be a part of the parks in years to come.

City Manager stated that there is \$100,000 set aside for landbanking. There are no specific plans for those funds.

Concern was expressed that when the skate park in the neighborhood was an issue last year, a commitment was made by the City to create somewhere for them to ride. There is no funding in the budget for that.

Mr. Lee stated that the original ramp given to the City seven years ago by Dave Mirra had to be dismantled because the wood on it had rotted. The newer models are constructed out of more durable materials. Dave Mirra donated \$1500 last week for reconstruction to get the City started.

Council Member Dunn questioned if one is needed in other areas.

Mr. Lee responded that there is one in the budget; however, it is a competitive type park that will allow the City to have national events here. This sport has brought a lot of recognition to the City of Greenville.

Council Member Council stated that classes are taught to beginners and camps held at the ramp at Jaycee Park.

It was suggested that the City use the \$60,000 funded to improve the other parks as originally planned and to take \$50,000 for the park on Firetower Road and \$50,000 for the skatepark out of fund balance.

City Manager Bowers stated that fund balance from the previous year is designated. Staff anticipates fund balance of \$200,000 in contingency for the current year. He recommended that be cut to \$100,000 so that the Firetower Road Park and skatepark could be funded.

Motion was made by Council Member Craft and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Miller to take \$50,000 for the park on Firetower Road and \$50,000 for the skatepark out of FY 2004-05 fund balance and reduce the contingency to \$100,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Little questioned the need for another Public Nuisance Inspector when it appears that the Building Inspectors have a great deal more volume of inspections than the Public Nuisance Inspectors (Code Enforcement Inspectors).

It was explained that the Code Enforcement Officers have more to do per case because of having to determine ownership of properties, writing letters to property owners and wait for responses, etc. The Code Enforcement Officer has to build a case, and it takes a lot more time to build a code enforcement case.

#### COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Council Member Dunn stated that summer school has started. East Carolina University had a good two-day neighborhood workshop.

Council Member Council stated that she overslept for Public Works Week, so she had a private breakfast with the Public Works employees on May 19.

Mayor Pro-Tem Miller stated that Monday is Memorial Day. He encouraged everyone to think about the people who have served and who are currently serving this country.

Council Member Craft stated that he enjoyed the Public Works Department breakfast.

#### CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Bowers had no report to give.

#### CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Council Member Dunn and seconded by Council Member Craft to go into closed session to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes, said law rendering the information as privileged or confidential by the Open Meetings Law, and to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body in the cases of Winstead Properties, LLC vs. City of Greenville Board of

Adjustment and Estate of Eugene Boseman vs. City of Greenville, etal Motion carried unanimously.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Motion was made by Council Member Council and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Miller to return to open session. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

Motion was made by Council Member Craft and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Miller to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Wanda T. Elks, CMC  
City Clerk